

(c) Government has taken a series of steps to address the problem of child labour in the country. A National Policy on Child Labour was announced by the Government in 1987 which envisages strict enforcement of child labour related laws, convergence of services for the benefit of parents of child labour in order to improve their economic condition and launching of projects in areas of high concentration of child labour. Under the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986 employment of children is prohibited in occupations/processes listed in the schedule to the Act. The employment condition of children in other occupations and processes is regulated under the Act.

Apart from legal measures, Government has taken steps for withdrawal and rehabilitation of child labour working in hazardous occupations through the scheme of National Child Labour Projects. Under the scheme, special schools have been set up with provision for non-formal education, vocational training, nutrition, stipend, health care etc. So far, 96 Child Labour Projects have been sanctioned in child labour endemic States for coverage of nearly 2.0 lakh children. This issue was also deliberated upon by the Hon'ble Supreme Court. The Court has given several directions in their judgement dated 10.12.96, including payment of compensation by the employers employing children in hazardous occupations. The Government has already taken a number of steps to implement these directions.

(d) In view of the above, does not arise.

Hindi Salahakar Samiti in Ministry of Labour

191. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

- (a) when was Hindi Salahakar Samiti was re-constituted recently in his Ministry;
- (b) the number of sittings of the Samiti held during the last three years, year-wise; and
- (c) the efforts made to conduct its meetings regularly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) The Hindi Salahakar Samiti of the Ministry of Labour was reconstituted on 23rd March, 1999.

(b) during the last three years, four meetings of the Committee have been organised. Year-wise details of these meetings are as under:

Year	No. of Meetings
1999	2
2000	1
2001	1

(c) All efforts have been made to hold these meetings regularly keeping in view the convenience of the Chairman of the Committee and the suggestions made by the members of the Committee.

Integrated Housing Scheme for Beedi Workers

192. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of beedi workers' families covered under the Integrated Housing Scheme (IHS) in Andhra Pradesh during the last three years, year-wise and district-wise;

(b) the number of dwelling units constructed and handed over to the beedi workers in the State during the said period; and

(c) what steps Government have taken to ensure that more and more beedi workers have a roof over their heads in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) A Statement is enclosed (*See* below).